GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1308
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2002
AIR POLLUTION BY TRUCKS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite orders of the Supreme Court dated December 6, 2001 some 60,000 trucks still run through Delhi everyday on high sulphur diesel causing heavy air pollution, though the deadline given by the Court was January 15, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons for the Delhi Police not enforcing the orders of the Supreme Court; and

(c) the measures taken to ensure that the trucks which are not destined to Delhi are not allowed to pass through Delhi ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(c):The Hon`ble Supreme Court of India vide its order dated December 6, 2001 directed the Commissioner of Police, Delhi to formulate a scheme so that the non-destined goods vehicles plying on inter-state routes may not transit through Delhi and only those goods vehicles are allowed to ply inside Delhi which make payment of octroi/toll tax to carry goods to or from Delhi.

The problems faced by Delhi Police in implementation of the directions of Supreme Court are:
(i) lack of road worthiness of the alternative routes where this large volume of traffic could be diverted;
(ii) inadequate junction geometrics at entry points of the National Capital Territory of Delhi to allow `U` turning of non-destined goods traffic; and
(iii) possibility of massive traffic jams at entry points if physical stopping and checking of each and every goods vehicle entering into the city takes place.

Delhi Police is in touch with the Governments of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh for upgradation of infrastructure and logistic support. Delhi Police has also apprised the Hon`ble Supreme Court about the difficulties being experienced by it in the implementation of the Court order.

As regards pollution caused by the trucks run on high sulphur diesel, the Transport Department of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi conducts regular checks to ensure that all motor vehicles plying on roads in the National Capital Territory of Delhi comply with the provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and rules framed thereunder in respect of emission norms.